

Review Staff: 76/0013/1
23 January 1976

Mr. A. Searle Field
Staff Director
Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Attn: Mr. Hecht

Dear Mr. Field:


This is in reply to your letter of 31 December 1975 requesting that the Agency provide an unclassified copy of material previously supplied to the Committee in a sanitized version and certain assurances with respect to disclosures to Mr. Ballew's attorney. We appreciate your deep personal concern and that of the Committee in regard to this matter. The Committee can rest assured that any request from Mr. Ballew's attorney will be treated with the same concern and dispatch that all such communications are given. Every attempt will be made to comply with such a request, consistent with statutory restrictions and the Director's duty under the CIA Act of 1949 to protect intelligence sources and methods. In addition, I am sure that Mr. Ballew's attorney is aware, as you are, that Government employees are amenable to proper legal processes. I suspect that the officials of Montgomery County would respond likewise with respect to a member of their police department.

With respect to your request to declassify and provide an additional copy of pages 634 and 635 of the "Family Jewels," I am somewhat confused. Your letter makes reference to identical but sanitized copies already in your possession, and further, that the Committee is aware of the deleted portions of these documents. It would therefore appear that an additional copy of pages 634 and 635 in a totally declassified version would only duplicate information already in possession of the Committee. However, if the Committee requires such a

declassified version of these documents for the purpose of their investigation, please advise, and I will initiate a review of the classification of the deleted items.

Sincerely,

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for Office of General Counsel